

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1 through 25 are pending in the application and the Examiner rejected all claims.

Claim Rejections

In item 6 on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-18, 20-22, and 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0135501 to Frerebeau et al. ("Frerebeau").

On page 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2-3, 19, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Frerebeau in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,678,518 to Eerola.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0135501 to Frerebeau et al. Is Not Prior Art

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0135501 to Frerebeau et al. ("Frerebeau") has a PCT filing date of May 22, 2001. As set forth in the attached Declaration of Kyle Brown, the present invention was invented by the applicant at least as early as May 15, 2000, more than one year prior to the filing date of Frerebeau. Since all of the rejections are based on Frerebeau, in whole or in part, and since Frerebeau is not prior art with respect to the present invention, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims based on Frerebeau.

Conclusion

The present invention is not taught or suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims. An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

A Credit Card Payment Form authorizing the payment of the extension fee is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Respectfully submitted

MARCH 21, 2005
Date



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